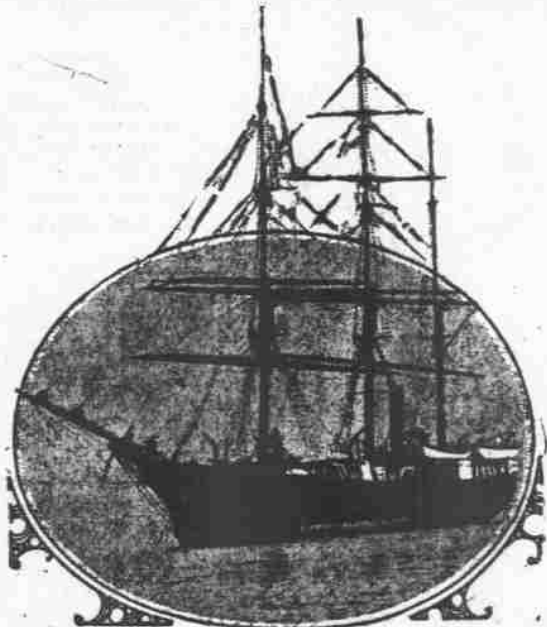


BECAUSE "BIG-FOOT" TILTON DARED DEATH, WHALER BELVEDERE AGAIN CAUGHT IN ICE



Belvedere, Oldest Whaler Afloat.

Seattle, Wash.—The steam whaler, Belvedere, the oldest whaler afloat, is locked in the ice in the Far North, 60 miles from Herschel Island. She was caught by the ice pack while en route with relief for the ill-fated Stefansson expedition, of which the Karluck, with 25 men on board, was caught in the ice earlier in the season and the crew recently rescued after battling death on the Siberian coast.

This is the story of what happened to the crew of the Belvedere and her brave captain, "Big Foot" Tilton, back in the winter of '97, one of the most cruel seasons in the history of the Arctic sea.

Some 400 men of the whaling fleet coast from Point Barrow to Herschel Island had been trapped aboard ship by the ice pack. The Belvedere made a harbor at Pt. Franklin on Seashore Island, to the north of Pt. Barrow.

Unless someone had reached the outside for aid they would have died miserably—a slow, horrible death of starvation and freezing.

Who would make the trip? Every man in the crew volunteered.

"I can't let you do it," said Capt. George F. Tilton, better known as "Big-Foot." "As first officer of the Belvedere I consider it my duty to take the word outside myself."